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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 09CARACAS1230, STILL NO AGREEMENT ON DRAFT DECLARATION FOR

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09CARACAS1230**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09CARACAS1230	2009-09-18 20:36	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Caracas

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.semana.com/mundo/wikileaks-venezuela-cumbre-perdio-chavez/158568-3.aspx>

VZCZCXRO9564
PP RUEHAG RUEHBZ RUEH DU RUEHMR RUEHPA RUEHRN RUEHROV RUEHSL RUEHSR
RUEHTRO
DE RUEHCV #1230 2612036
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 182036Z SEP 09
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3719
INFO RUEHZO/AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHWH/WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS PRIORITY
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 001230

SIPDIS

FOR WHA/AND/MBOND, AF/RSA/LMAZEL, AND NEA/RA/MADLER
HQ SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
DEPARTMENT PASS TO AID/OTI (RPORTER)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/17/2029

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SUBJECT: STILL NO AGREEMENT ON DRAFT DECLARATION FOR
UNASUR-AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT

Classified By: Political Counselor Robin D. Meyer,
for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

¶1. (C) Summary: South African Ambassador Bhekizzizwe Gila told Ambassador Duddy on September 18 that South African President Zuma would attend the September 26-27 UNASUR -African Union Summit taking place on Venezuela's Margarita Island. Gila said the heads of state of Brazil, Libya, Algeria, and possibly Ecuador would also attend. He noted that the Venezuelan government (GBRV) has resisted making any changes in their proposal for a Summit Declaration, which includes several articles praising the "Bolivarian Socialist Revolution." Brazil and South Africa are negotiating separately to develop an alternative declaration. End Summary.

President Zuma Coming to Venezuela

¶2. (C) In spite of earlier reports of minimal South African participation at the UNASUR - African Union Summit (reftel), Gila confirmed that President Zuma would attend the event. He noted that South Africa is hoping to increase its business relationship with Venezuela, especially with regards to the mining industry. He said that South Africa currently has only a very light presence in Venezuela, especially compared to Colombia, where South African investment is significant. The South African government is actively encouraging the GBRV to rejoin the Kimberley Process regulating the diamond trade. "The Venezuelans," Gila said, "are flooding the illegal market with diamonds, and affecting international prices." In addition to attending the Summit, President Zuma hopes to hold bilateral meetings with senior GBRV officials.

Venezuelans Unwilling to Negotiate the Summit Declaration

¶3. (C) Preparatory meetings for Summit have apparently failed to result in a negotiated Summit Declaration. Gila said the Venezuelans do not seem to have the "necessary patience" required for multilateral negotiations, and the GBRV's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has refused to discuss any changes to the text. The GBRV proposal has over 80 articles, Gila said, beginning with several that praise the Bolivarian Socialist Revolution. Gila called the GBRV's projects like BancoSur and TeleSur symbolically acceptable, but "impractical." He also questioned the Venezuelans' insistence on locating all south-south institutions in Caracas. South Africa to date has refused to accept the declaration as drafted and is negotiating with Brazil on a separate two-page compromise document. Gila indicated that Venezuelan intransigence could result in no Summit declaration at all.
DUDDY